order to enhance access to services of Gynaecologists and Anaesthetists under the Family Welfare Programme, a scheme has been formulated under which State Governments are permitted to hire the services of Anaesthetists private doctors for an amount of Rs. 1000 per case. A similar proposal to engage Gynaecologists on contract basis is under process.

Malnutrition among children

†1980. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that children in the country are not being properly reared;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take concrete steps to save children from malnutrition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) As per the National Family Health Survey-2 (1998-99) about 47 per cent of children under three years of age are underweight. The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme is under implementation to provide supplementary nutrition to young children. Exclusive Breastfeeding upto six months of age and promotion of appropriate complementary feeding practices is being undertaken. Programmes for prophylaxis against iron deficiency anaemia and Vitamin A deficiency are under implementation.

PHCs and CHCs functioning in the country

1981. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of primary health centres, sub-centres and community health centres functioning at present in the country alongwith availability of doctors, nurses and hospital beds, particularly in the Metropolitan cities, State-wise/Metropolitan city-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.